

Premise Identification

The first step in developing the comprehensive national system is to assign a unique number—a premise ID number, or “premlD”—to every location where animals are born, housed, marketed or exhibited.

In Indiana, every animal site that has a unique 911 or postal address should have its own premise ID number (see “What is a Premise?” section for more details). Consider the premlD to be like the animal’s address; although multiple animals with different owners may reside at the same location, they will all share the same premise ID. **The premise number is linked to a physical piece of property and will remain as such, regardless of ownership of the animals on the site.**

Registration is free, fairly simple, and the information required is minimal. In fact, most registration information can be found in a phone book—contact name(s), addresses and phone number, along with a general description of the species held at this location. The Indiana State Board of Animal Health, or a partnering organization, can register sites.

The premise identification program, which is mandatory for all sites associated with the purchase, sale, or exhibition of livestock in the state of Indiana beginning in September 2006, includes the registration of cattle/bison, cervids, swine, sheep and goats. Poultry and aquaculture are also part of Indiana’s plan. Although not mandatory, equine and camelids may be registered voluntarily under the state plan.

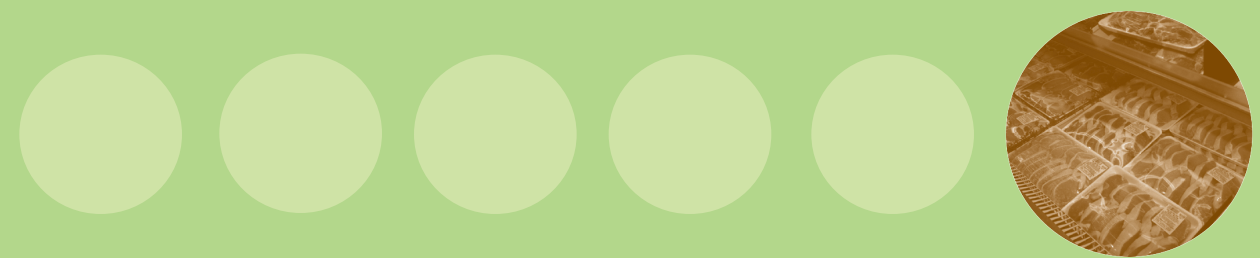
The second and third portions of NAIS, animal ID and animal and product tracking, cannot be successful without the completion of the premise ID step. Without accurate identification of a producer’s premises, effective and efficient animal tracking or trace back will be nearly impossible.



Animal Identification

Step two in the National Animal Identification System involves individual animal identification. Currently, under NAIS, individual (and group) animal identification is not required. Indiana law requires individual identification of livestock for specific purposes; those state rules must still be followed regardless of NAIS requirements.

To track animals as they move from premise to premise, animal health officials must have a standard way to identify them. Under NAIS, animals will be identified either individually with a unique animal identification number or, if they are managed and moved through the production chain as a group, with a group/lot identification number. Species working groups, comprised of industry and government representatives, are making recommendations about which types of technology will work best with their animals. For example, the cattle identification working group has suggested external radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tags. Other identification technologies will be determined as species working groups provide their recommendations. USDA anticipates allocating individual animal identification numbers to manufacturers. The tag manufacturers will encode those numbers into tags and distribute them to producers. USDA will then receive an electronic record of where each tag was sent.



Animal and Product Tracking

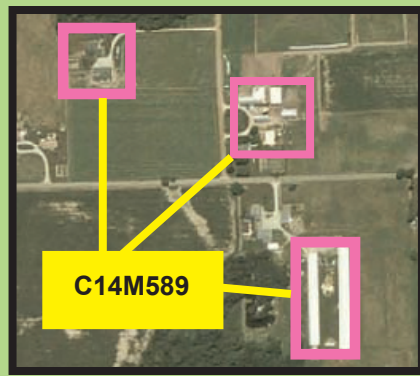
Once premises are registered and animals or groups of animals are identified, the system will begin collecting information about animal movements from one premise to another—this is the animal tracking component of NAIS.

The ultimate goal of NAIS is to allow animal health officials to identify all animals and premises that have had contact with a disease of concern within 48 hours of a diagnosis. As an information system that provides for rapid tracing of infected and exposed animals, NAIS will help limit the scope of disease outbreaks and ensure they are contained as quickly as possible. In this way, disease investigations will be completed more quickly, resources will be used more efficiently, and stakeholders can get back to business as usual sooner.

What is a Premise?

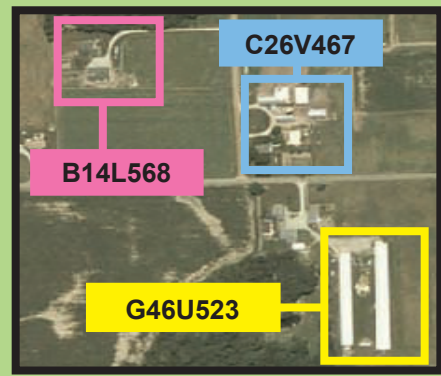
In Indiana, every animal site with a unique 911 or postal address must have its own premise ID number beginning in September 2006. Different numbers should be issued for sites not contiguous with an operation. (Land separated by no more than a county road may be considered contiguous.) Facilities for animals at different stages of production (for example, calves, heifers, milking cows, etc.) may be one premise, if all are on the same piece of contiguous land. Only one number is needed when multiple species are on the same premise. The premise is linked to a physical piece of property and will remain as such, regardless of ownership of the animals present.

Disadvantages of One vs. Multiple Premise IDs for a Single Operation



Three non contiguous sites registered to a producer under one premise ID number may cause:

- Difficulty in identifying specific origin of animal(s) during trace back
- Quarantine likely to involve all locations rather than just the premise(s) infected
- Delays in notification of a disease event in the area



Three premises registered to one producer with individual premise IDs allows:

- Rapid and specific identification of origin(s) of animal(s) during trace back
- Individual premise quarantines for multi-premise operation rather than all locations owned by the producer
- Early notification to animal owners of disease threats in the area



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A Hoosier's Guide To Premise & Animal Identification



Why Premise and Animal Identification

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is a three-step nationwide initiative with the ultimate goal of allowing animal health officials to trace an animal's movement history within 48 hours in an emergency situation, such as a foot-and-mouth disease break. Commodity organizations are working closely with USDA to build a program that works with all species of livestock and poultry.

Helping producers protect Indiana's animal agriculture industry is a top priority for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). NAIS will supply invaluable information resources to help BOAH continue providing service and protection to animal agriculture and the livestock industry. By using NAIS in an emergency, animal health officials will have access to the information they need to communicate rapidly with producers. Having the physical locations of key species readily available can speed response efforts and contain a disease more quickly. That's why, beginning Sept. 1, 2006, all sites in Indiana associated with the sale, purchase or exhibition of livestock must have a registered premise ID number.

Ultimately, implementing premise and animal ID and collecting timely animal movement data will allow for 48-hour traceback of livestock, more rapid disease response and more accurate communication in an emergency.



For more information: 317-227-0328 or www.boah.in.gov.